

**From:** [Robert Safay/R4/USEPA/US@EPA](mailto:Robert.Safay/R4/USEPA/US@EPA)  
**To:** [pay9@cdc.gov](mailto:pay9@cdc.gov)  
**Subject:** Fw: MISSISSIPPI CANYON 252 ODOR COMPLAINTS ATSDR ASSISTANCE  
**Date:** 04/26/2010 10:17 AM

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-----Original Message-----

To: Rich Nickel  
To: Patrick Young  
To: [hitchcock.shane@epa.gov](mailto:hitchcock.shane@epa.gov)  
To: [ullock.dean@epa.gov](mailto:ullock.dean@epa.gov)  
Cc: Murray, Ed (ATSDR/DTEM/OD)  
Cc: James S. (Jim) (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB) Holler  
Cc: Tom Sinks  
Cc: Tina Forrester  
Cc: Mike Allred  
Cc: Scott Deitchman  
Subject: Re: MISSISSIPPI CANYON 252 ODOR COMPLAINTS ATSDR ASSISTANCE  
Sent: Apr 26, 2010 10:56 AM

I concur. I told Dean I would get it to Shane for review, then Shane will get it to Unified Command in LA for distribution to NRT and RRT's 4 and 6. Also, fact sheet on food chain and consumption of sea food a good idea.

I already notified Dr. Geller with Poison Control Center and he will contact others. Patrick should do same in R-6. Bob

-----Original Message-----

From: Rich Nickel  
To: Robert Safay  
Cc: Murray, Ed (ATSDR/DTEM/OD)  
Cc: James S. (Jim) (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB) Holler  
Cc: Tom Sinks  
Cc: Tina Forrester  
Cc: Mike Allred  
Cc: Scott Deitchman  
Subject: RE: MISSISSIPPI CANYON 252 ODOR COMPLAINTS ATSDR ASSISTANCE  
Sent: Apr 26, 2010 10:40 AM

Bob, we can come up with a statement on the health effects of petroleum odors and tar balls, but these concerns are only going to be the first issues. I think we should be looking ahead at other factors. Let me suggest some things, maybe you can run these ideas through Dean, and see what y'all think.

First off, whatever is put out should be coordinated through the Joint Information Center that is being operated by the 8th Coast Guard District in New Orleans; that's required under the NCP anyway. Our information on the health implications needs to be added to information on the NOAA projections and the Coast Guard led response operations as well as the information on effects on the sea-life for both commercial and recreation fishermen from the National Marine Fisheries Service and the US Wildlife and Fisheries Service. I think the open season for shrimp is about to start in Louisiana waters, for instance, and that could become a big issue if there is emulsified oil in the shrimp grounds. Anyway, the health implications of exposure to oil should be one piece of the much larger picture.

Second, with the understanding that our technical information is going into this larger package, I think DTEM can pull together the technical aspects of the health picture based on the NOAA projections we are getting off their ResponseLink Hotlines. We have the ATSDR Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons ToxFAQ and Public Health Statements with some other pieces off the Fuel Oil ToxFAQ and PHS and some of the site specific fact sheets from Coffeyville and Murphy oil as well as other information. We can also look at fact sheets from various states. Specific fact sheet targeted at this incident will likely take a day or two to make it through even an abbreviated clearance on just the technical issues, even taking snippets from previously cleared information. DTEM will start on that today.

Third, in the interim, the fuel oil ToxFAQ is probably closest to what folks are needing to know now for what they are encountering on the coast. Based on fate and transport of petroleum, what is likely approaching the coast first is the lighter more volatile diesel fuel from the rig; the heavier crude oil with tar balls and mats should be at least a day or two behind the diesel.

On contacts. For the general public, I think we need to let them come through CDC-Info for health information. It may be a good thing for us to reach out to the Poison Control Centers as well for healthcare professionals. For federal agencies and our state partners, the best contact will be through the CDC EOC at 770-488-7100 (24/7). The lead for this is supposed to be NCEH, but I guess we have been taking the brunt of it so far as it has been mostly NRT issues. We will work out with OTPER about who is going to get the calls triaged from the EOC.

If public health issues becomes a significant factor for the Incident Commanders dealing with the oil coming ashore (significant being that it distracts them from the response), they can ask for on-site support. Money is tight and this may be long haul to get the well plugged and the release stopped. We may need to explore the process of getting a Pollution Funds Ordering Agreement (PFOA) out of the Pollution Funds Center so that we can get re-imbursed out of the OPA Trust Fund. We have never done that before and I believe the process for first timers is a bit more involved than a Mission Assignment under the Stafford Act. My understanding is that we will have to involve FMO since we don't have

an MOU with the Funds Center. We may be able to expedite that process by getting the EOC logistics people in on this, but that may also slow things down as they are focused on the mission assignment process. I have a contact for the Funds Center that I can give to whoever from here needs to be involved.

Let me know how this flies with Coast Guard Sector Mobile, the 8th District, and EPA IV. In the meantime, we'll start on pulling things together. We can probably have a draft done by the end of the day or first thing in the morning for folks to start chewing on.

Rich Nickle  
ATSDR Emergency Response

-----Original Message-----

From: Holler, James S. (Jim) (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB)  
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2010 9:32 AM  
To: Nickle, Richard (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB)  
Subject: FW: MISSISSIPPI CANYON 252 ODOR COMPLAINTS ATSDR ASSISTANCE

Rich,

Per our discussion this morning.

Jim

-----Original Message-----

From: Safay.Robert@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Safay.Robert@epamail.epa.gov]

Sent: Monday, April 26, 2010 9:17 AM  
To: Holler, James S. (Jim) (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB); Sinks, Tom  
(CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH); Forrester, Tina (ATSDR/DRO)  
Subject: Fw: MISSISSIPPI CANYON 252 ODOR COMPLAINTS ATSDR ASSISTANCE

Jim, a follow up from our call this morning. I spoke to Dean Ullock this morning. EPA and USCG sector command would like this ASAP as complaints coming in more frequently. Bob

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